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*632
Castle*

ADVISABILITY OF SUBSTITUTING AN AIR DROP FOR A SURFACE DROP --
OPERATION CASTLE

I concur completely in Dr. Bradbury's letter herewith and with Dr. Bradbury's concurrence I would like to add some additional information.

It appears that most of the effects information will be obtained during CASTLE primarily by instrumentation. As you can appreciate, to get the information desired the shot must have a reasonably accurate and close relation to the instrumentation lines.

It appears improbable and certainly very risky to assume that any predictable, acceptable accuracy can be obtained in an air drop of the devices under consideration. There have been ten experimental drops on which we have measurements. The minimum C.E.P. in this series was 1346 feet. The average of the ten shots was 4087 feet. The maximum in the series was 8000 feet. While it is likely that these accuracies will be improved, I consider it unlikely that an acceptable average can be planned upon with any device dependent upon parachutes; even granting that parachutes did not stream or suffer other inherent failures.

Hence, it seems unsound to plan on an air drop in a series in which, as Morris brings out, obtaining information is of paramount importance.

Enclosure:
Cy 1/6A ltr Bradbury/Fields
thru Tyler/2-20-53/DIR-806 (Secret)

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